

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/546,247

Applicant(s)

VAN LIEW ET AL.

Examiner

David L Jones

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/16/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-37.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


EDWARD COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed on 6/16/2004 has been entered and made of record. Claims 1-37 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see page 10, filed 6/16/2004, with respect to claim 18, and the Rejection Under 35 USC Section 112 Second Paragraph have been fully considered and are persuasive. The Rejection of claim 18 has been withdrawn.
3. Applicant's arguments, see page 10 and 11, filed 6/16/2004, with respect to claims 33 and 34 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of claims 33 and 34 have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-37 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record do not teach or suggest the limitation of a processor for superimposing onto source data at least one forensic marking so as to create output data corresponding to the forensically marked image, and at least on marking having an information marker indicative of the system created with, and a checksum marker proximate the information marker and indicative of the information marker.

The features identified, in combination with other claim limitations, are neither suggested nor discussed by the prior art of record.

The related art of record related to watermarking printing systems and method are listed below.

Wataya (US 6,646,764) teaches that a system and method that encodes the information of the computer and printer information, the output means is adapted so as to output the image data, to which the identification has been added by an adding means and printed with a yellow ink, which is difficult to discern with the human eye. But Wataya does not teach that the information is encoded utilizing a checksum.

Funada et al. (US 5,257,119) teaches an image processing system capable of identifying, from a reproduced image; an image processing apparatus, which has been used to reproduce an image. And further, the ability to decide if an image can be copied or denial of copying depending if the image is encoded. Adds encoding to the copied image that is not discernable by the human eye or imparts a blocked part of the image to inform that the image has been copied. But Funada et al. does not teach the ability to encode the data within a checksum.

Daly et al. (US 6,044,182) teaches a method of embedding digital data in a source image includes the steps of: a) generating a multi-level data image representing the digital data; b) convolving the multi-level data image with an encoding carrier image to produce a frequency dispersed data image; and c) adding the frequency dispersed data image to the source image to produce a source image containing embedded data. The data is recovered from the image by: a) cross correlating the source image containing embedded data with a decoding carrier image to recover the data image; and b) extracting the digital data from the recovered data image. And Daly explicitly details that adding a checksum would create a blurred image and does not use a checksum within the application.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


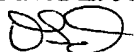
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David L Jones whose telephone number is (703) 305-4675. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (7:00am - 3:30pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David L. Jones



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